Several definitions, cruise industry terms and acronyms used throughout this report may not be familiar to the reader. We define several of these terms in the following section.1

1) Adequacy. Sufficient to satisfy a requirement or meet a need. Barely satisfactory or sufficient.2

2) Air Draft. The maximum height of a vessel above the waterline.

3) Ambient Conditions. Common, prevailing, and uncontrolled atmospheric and weather conditions in a place.

4) Anchorage. Location where a vessel may anchor. In destinations where docks are not present to accommodate vessel operations, anchorages are used and passengers are shuttled to/from the cruise vessel to a landside location using a small boat (tender). Anchorages are generally only used in ports-of-call.

5) Barrier Island. Long, narrow strips of sand forming islands that protect inland areas from ocean waves and storms.

6) Baseline. An initial set of critical observations or data used for comparison or a control.

7) Beam. The width of the cruise vessel at its widest part. Panamax Vessels refer to vessels with beams that can transit the Panama Canal (beam is equal to 36m or less). Post-Panamax Vessels and Super-Post Panamax have beams that exceed the width of the Panama Canal, or greater than 36m.

8) Bed (berth)-nights. A typical cruise industry form of capacity measurement representing the number of lower berths (a bed on a cruise vessel, with the aggregate total generally determining the vessel’s normal passenger capacity) times nights of operation in a region.

9) Berth. (1) A bed, generally attached to the deck and/or bulkhead onboard a vessel. (2) An anchorage or dock space for a vessel in port.

10) Berthing Area. The place where a ship lies when at anchor or at a wharf.

11) Bottom Vegetation. The vegetation found on the surface on which a body of water lies.

12) Bulkhead. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

13) Bulkers. Marine fuel used for propulsion.

14) Cabotage Laws (also referred to as coastwise cruise vessel laws). Relates to the ability of foreign-flagged vessels to transport goods and passengers between domestic ports. Cabotage Laws are often put into place to protect domestic cruise vessel industries.

15) Conventional cruises (homeport cruises with destination and port-of-call cruises). Leisure oriented voyages on deep-water, ocean-going cruise vessels of two-or-more nights often to a variety of destinations. Conventional cruises are offered either by regional or international operators marketing to a variety of consumer sectors and nationalities.

16) Crane. Used to move containers from and to cargo vessels. They can be electrified or diesel powered and be either panama or super Post panama in their configuration in order to reach across the beam of a vessel.

17) Cruises-to-Nowhere (homeport cruises without destination). Generally geared toward a local consumer market (within a one-hour drive) with the mainstay of the cruise experience is focused around on-board gaming, food and entertainment.

18) CVI. Coastal Vulnerability Index – the relative risk that physical changes will occur as sea-level rises according to the United States Geological Survey.

19) CWA. Critical Wildlife Area – designated wildlife refuges in Florida.

20) Deadweight Tonnage. Refers to the actual weight of cargo, fuel and stores required to bring the vessel down to her load-line marks.

21) DOA. Department of the Navy – The executive branch of the U.S. Navy.

22) Dockage. Fees levied by a port or destination for the right to dock a vessel.

23) Discharge. The depth of water required by a vessel to float; the measurement in meters of the extent to which the vessel projects below the surface of the water.

24) Draught. Charge incurred to move cargo.

25) Dredge. To deepen a waterway with a dredging machine.

26) Dredging. Activities that have an impact on the County’s natural resources.

27) Drayage. Charge incurred to move cargo.

28) EPT. Drayage.

29) EAD. The maximum height of a vessel above the waterline.

29) EADE. Air Draft.


31) EDM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

32) EMP. Marine fuel used for propulsion.

33) EMTP. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

34) ENR. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

35) ENV. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

36) ER. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

37) ERR. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

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44) EV. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

45) EVR. EADERM. A retaining wall made of metal along a waterfront.

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30) **EFH.** Essential Fish Habitat – those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity as stated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

31) **Estuarine.** A body of water formed where freshwater from rivers and streams flows into the ocean, mixing with the seawater.

32) **FAC.** Florida Administrative Code – the official compilation of the Rules and Regulations of Florida Regulatory Agencies filed with the Department of State under the Provisions of Chapter 120, Florida Statutes.

33) **FDEP.** Florida Department of Environmental Protection – the lead agency in the Florida state government for environmental management and stewardship.

34) **FEMA.** Federal Emergency Management Agency – coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

35) **Ferry.** Term usually applied to a vessel transporting passengers and vehicles from point to point. The key difference between these operations and conventional cruises is that ferry operations have as their primary business focus offering transportation services, not a travel and leisure experience.

36) **FWC.** Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – a state agency whose mission is managing fish and wildlife resources for their long-term well-being and the benefit of people.

37) **Geomorphology.** The branch of geology that examines the formation and structure of the features of the surface of the Earth or of another planet.

38) **Gross Tonnage (GT).** A measure of a vessel’s enclosed volume. This term has emerged as the standard measure of communicating a vessel’s size. A Megavessel generally refers to a vessel of 70,000 GT or larger.

39) **Ground Transportation Area (GTA).** Zone in which vehicles, including buses, taxis and private cars are organized and accessed as part of cruise terminal/destination embarkation and disembarkation activities.

40) **Hard Bottom Habitat.** Habitat characterized as mixed communities of algae, sponges, octocorals and stony corals.

41) **Homeport (also referred to as baseport, port of embarkation, turnaround port).** A marine facility and destination city that serves as the base of operations from which the cruise begins and/or terminates.

42) **Itinerary.** Ports visited on a given cruise. Two itinerary types are generally observed. Open-jaw itineraries refer to those deployments where the cruise begins at one homeport and ends at another. Closed-jaw itineraries—the more common type observed—begin and end from the same homeport.

43) **Length Overall (LOA).** Total length of a cruise vessel, including any incidental structure that may extend this dimension.

44) **Lower Berth Capacity.** The number of beds of standard height on a cruise vessel. The number of lower berths determines the vessel’s normal passenger capacity. Maximum Passenger Capacity refers to the total number of passengers that can be accommodated on the cruise vessel in lower berths and other flexible berths (also referred to as upper berths).

45) **Mixed-Use Facility.** Refers to facility or complex with more than one type of real estate or operational use. Mixed-use facilities are generally: (1) Contiguous in nature; (2) Developed within a broader master plan constructed at one time or in phases; and, (3) Provide for a symbiotic vessel to occur among all uses such that the sum of the mixed-use facility from a real estate or operational perspective is greater than its parts. Mixed-use maritime facilities often include cruise, ferry, marina, commercial, residential, recreational and other upland transportation facilities.

46) **Mixing Zone.** An area of a lake, river, stream, or ocean where pollutants from a point source discharge are mixed, usually by natural means, with cleaner water.

47) **Need.** A condition or situation in which something is required or wanted. Necessity; obligation. To be necessary.

48) **NGVD.** National Geodetic Vertical Datum – a fixed reference adopted as a standard geodetic datum for elevations determined by leveling. The geodetic datum is fixed and does not take into account the changing stands of sea level. Because there are many variables affecting sea level, and because the geodetic datum represents a best fit over a broad area, the relationship between the geodetic datum and local mean sea level is not consistent from one location to another in either time or space. For this reason, the National Geodetic Vertical Datum should not be confused with mean sea level.

49) **NMFS.** National Marine Fisheries Service – the federal agency, a division of the Department of Commerce, responsible for the stewardship of the nation’s living marine resources and their habitat.

50) **OFW.** Outstanding Florida Water – a water designated worthy of special protection because of its natural attributes.

51) **Panamax vessel.** Size standard that equals the largest vessel dimension capable of transiting the Panama Canal. Generally based on the beam of the vessel. Vessels classified as Panamax are of the maximum dimensions that will fit through the locks of the Panama Canal, each of which is 304-m long by 33.5-m wide and 25.9-m deep. Thus a Panamax vessel will usually have dimension of close to 965 ft. long (294m), 106 ft. wide (32.3m) and a draft of not more than 39.5 ft. (12.06m). See Beam.

52) **Passenger Tax (also referred to as a head tax).** Port charge assessed against each passenger aboard the vessel. Generally the principal income stream to ports and destinations for accommodating cruise activities.

53) **Port-of-call (also referred to as a way-port).** One of several destinations visited as part of the cruise itinerary. The focus of the port-of-call is on tourism activities adjacent to the cruise arrival area and the transportation of passengers to regional points of interest.

54) **Post-Panamax vessel.** Size standard that exceeds the largest vessel dimension capable of transiting the Panama Canal. Generally based on the beam and length of the vessel. These vessels have dimensions that are wider than longer than Panama Canal locks – such as a beam of 36-m, and length of 311-meters. See Beam.

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55) **Revenue Passenger.** This generally refers to a homeport passenger or in some very limited cases port-of-call passengers (Vancouver where all passengers are charged for on/off the vessel), whereby passenger counts reflects the Port’s passenger wharfage or Tariff rate charging policy. For homeport calls the actual number of passengers is doubled to show that the cruise operator is charged by the port for the passenger boarding and disembarking the vessel as a set fee.

56) **ROI.** Return on Investment.

57) **RTG.** Rubber tired gantry crane used for moving container boxes to and from the cargo yard to a vessel, truck or rail position.

58) **Seawall.** A wall or embankment to protect the shore from erosion or to act as a breakwater.

59) **Sedimentation.** The action or process of forming or depositing sediment.

60) **SFWMD.** South Florida Water Management District – a regional governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state, covering 16 counties from Orlando to the Florida Keys and serving a population of 7.5 million residents.

61) **Soft Bottom Habitat.** Habitat characterized as unconsolidated, soft sediment (sand, silt, and clay).

62) **Spawning.** To produce offspring in large numbers.

63) **Storm Surge.** An abnormal rise in sea level accompanying a hurricane or other intense storm, and whose height is the difference between the observed level of the sea surface and the level that would have occurred in the absence of the cyclone.

64) **Subsidence (Land).** A gradual settling or sudden sinking of the Earth’s surface owing to subsurface movement of earth materials; occurs when large amounts of ground water have been withdrawn from certain types of rocks, such as fine-grained sediments causing the rocks to fall in on themselves.

65) **Super-Post Panamax vessel.** Generally refers to the largest cruise vessels in existence today. This is also a general term for the largest cargo vessels in existence today. These vessels are defined not only by their dimensions, but also their carrying capacity of more than 3,000 t passengers and GT approaching and exceeding 150,000.

66) **Terminal.** Building where cruise passengers embark and/or disembark in a homeport destination.

67) **TEU.** The twenty-foot equivalent unit is an inexact unit of cargo capacity often used to describe the capacity of container ships and container terminals. It is based on the volume of a 20-foot-long (6.1 m) intermodal container, a standard-sized metal box which can be easily transferred between different modes of transportation, such as ships, trains and trucks.

68) **Throughput Passenger** (also referred to as a revenue passenger). Total number of passengers arriving and/or processed at a cruise homeport and port-of-call.

69) **Tidal Range.** The vertical difference between the high tide and the succeeding low tide.

70) **Transhipment Area.** The area used as an intermediate destination in the shipment of goods or containers.

71) **Transit Passengers.** By literal definition, the status of cruise passengers at a port-of-call.

72) **Turbidity.** The amount of particulate matter suspended in water that affects the degree to which light traveling through water.

73) **Turning Basin.** An open area at the end of a canal or in a narrow waterway to allow boats to turn.

74) **USCG.** United States Coast Guard; a military, multi-mission, maritime service within the Department of Homeland Security and one of the nation’s five armed services. Its core roles are to protect the public, the environment, and U.S. economic and security interests in any maritime region in which those interests may be at risk, including international waters and America’s coasts, ports, and inland waterways.

75) **USGS.** United States Geological Survey; the sole science agency for the Department of the Interior whom provides reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

76) **Wading Bird.** Any of various large birds having long legs, long necks, and long bills, that are adapted for wading in shallow waters and living on fish, frogs, etc., as the crane, heron, stork, shoebill, ibis, and flamingo.

77) **WASD.** Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department; provides drinking water and wastewater disposal services for the residents, visitors, and businesses of Miami-Dade County.

78) **Water Column.** A conceptual column of water from surface to bottom sediments.

79) **Wharfage.** Charge incurred for a passenger tax or cargo.